

Serial No.10/762,587
60130-2002; 02MRA0149**REMARKS**

The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a) as not showing a current carrying feature as recited in claim 1. The specification is objected to for failing to provide antecedent basis for the current carrying feature. Claim 1 has been amended to remove the language "a current carrying feature."

Claims 1-11 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 1 has been amended to remove the language "the current carrying feature."

Claims 1, 6, 8, 10 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Adam et al. (US 5,528,093). Adam does not disclose a gear reduction unit including a connector that is removeably connected to a geared motor housing, wherein the geared motor housing is maintained permanently assembled to an electric motor and the connector includes electrical supply contacts for feeding current to the electric motor. Adam discloses a commutator motor including an electronic housing 3 clamped between a housing flange 1.1 of a plastic motor housing 1 and a housing flange 2.1 of a plastic gear housing 2 (column 3, lines 24 to 25). If the plastic motor housing 1 of Adam was maintained permanently assembled to the plastic gear housing 2, the electronic housing 3 could not be removeably connected to the plastic gear housing 2 because the electronic housing 3 is located between the plastic motor housing 1 and the plastic gear housing 2. For the electronic housing 3 to be removable, the plastic motor housing 1 and the plastic gear housing 2 would have to be separated. However, if the plastic motor housing 1 and the geared motor housing 2 were separated, they would not be maintained permanently connected as claimed. Additionally, the electronic housing 3 does not include electric supply contacts that feed current to an electric motor as claimed. The housing 3 simply houses electronics. The claimed invention is not anticipated, and Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 2-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Adam et al. (US 5,528,093) in view of Santos et al. (US 4,987,415), and Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Adam et al. (US 5,528,093) in view of Richeson (US 5,300,883). Claims 2-5 and 7 depend on patentable independent claim 1 and are allowable for the reasons set forth above. Neither reference discloses, suggests or teaches a gear reduction unit

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including a connector that is removably connected to the geared motor housing, wherein the geared motor housing is maintained permanently assembled to the electric motor. Therefore, even if the features of Santos and Richeson are added to Adam, the claimed invention is not obvious.

Claims 12, 13 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Richeson (US 5,300,883). Richeson does not disclose a sensor fixed to a printed circuit board and offset relative to a plane formed by the printed circuit board. As shown in Figure 4, Richeson discloses a Hall cell 14 that is secured through an opening in a circuit board 12 (column 3, lines 6-7). Therefore, the Hall cell 14 cannot be offset relative to a plane formed by the circuit board 12 as claimed. The claimed invention is not anticipated, and Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Richeson (US 5,300,883) in view of Adam et al. (US 5,528,093). Claim 14 depends on patentable independent claim 12 and is allowable for the reasons set forth above. Neither reference discloses, suggests or teaches disclose a sensor fixed to a printed circuit board and offset relative to a plane formed by the printed circuit board. Therefore, even if the features of Adam are added to Richeson, the claimed invention is not obvious.

Thus, claims 1-7 and 9-17 are in condition for allowance. No additional fees are seen to be required. If any additional fees are due, however, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1482, in the name of Carlson, Gaskey & Olds, P.C., for any additional fees or credit the account for any overpayment. Therefore, favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

CARLSON, GASKEY & OLDS, P.C.



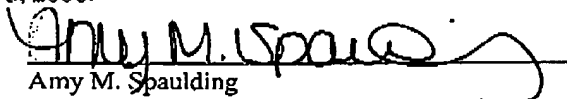
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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, 571-273-8300 on March 3, 2006.


Amy M. Spaulding